

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the specification as indicated:

Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] FIG. 3 depicts an exemplary method of a content hosting service 110 aggregating titles of content from various third party suppliers 140, 142, 144 and hosting said titles on its own web server 122. As shown in step 302, the user would first "sign on" to a hosting service by providing single sign-on credentials to the single sign-on identity server 118. The "sign-on" includes a user name and other verification information such as a password or biometric data. The single sign-on information lets the user federate the user's identity with other third party providers 140, 142, 144 and the content hosting service 110. The user can browse the content list stored in the web server 122 and request an item to be purchased, as shown in step 304. As shown in step 306, the content broker process 120 communicates with the third party content provider 140, 142, 144 using standard web services protocols (e.g. Web Services Description Language (WSDL), Simple Object Application Protocol (SOAP), Extensible Markup Language (XML)) to request a purchase of the content. As shown in step 308, the content broker 120 may provide device profile characteristics stored in the device profile table 210 so the content provider can determine a proper media format to deliver to the user. In step 310, the content broker 120 receives the header information (content title, category, media type, usage rights, unique content ID) pertaining to the content that will be provided, and in step 312, the content broker 120 receives the binary content along with the associated license key that defines the usage rights obtained from the user directly from the third party provider 140, 142, 144. As shown in step 314, the media parameters are stored in the media asset table 230, and the content itself is optionally archived in the hosting service's content disk storage 116. Alternatively, the media type may be stored in a computer memory (not shown). In a particular illustrative embodiment, the content may be stored the computer memory. As shown in step 316, the content requested is then downloaded to the Internet accessible device of the consumer by the content broker hosting service 110.